

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend paragraph [0043] in Published Application U.S. 2008/0317808 A1, as follows:

FIG. 5 reports the effect ~~Effect~~ of IL-1 on the release of MMP activity (Mean $\pm$ SEM; n=5) from natural cartilage (A) and tissue engineered cartilage (B). In each experiment the cartilage was exposed to 3 nM IL-1 ~ (hatched bars) or medium only (black bars) for 4 weeks. Culture medium was collected each week and residual cartilage at the end of the experiment for measurement of MMP activity (medium) and type II collagen (medium and cartilage). Statistical analysis was by the 2-tailed Mann-Whitney U-test.